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Bangalore Mirror

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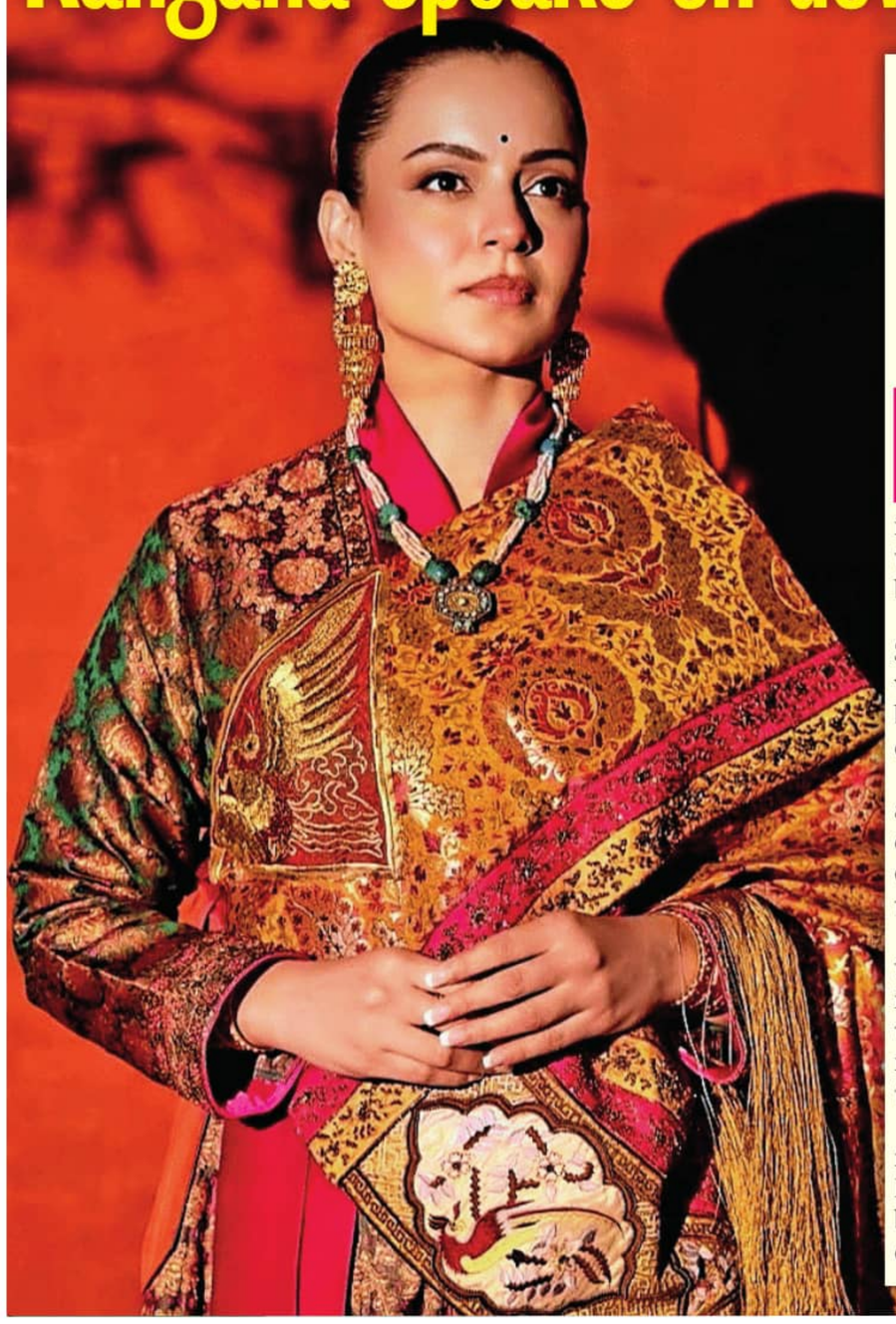
Kangana speaks on dowry deaths



Actor urges women to prioritise careers and financial independence

Kangana Ranaut has reacted to the recent dowry-linked deaths of Twisha Sharma and Deepika Nagar, criticising society for failing women and urging young women to become financially independent before marriage.

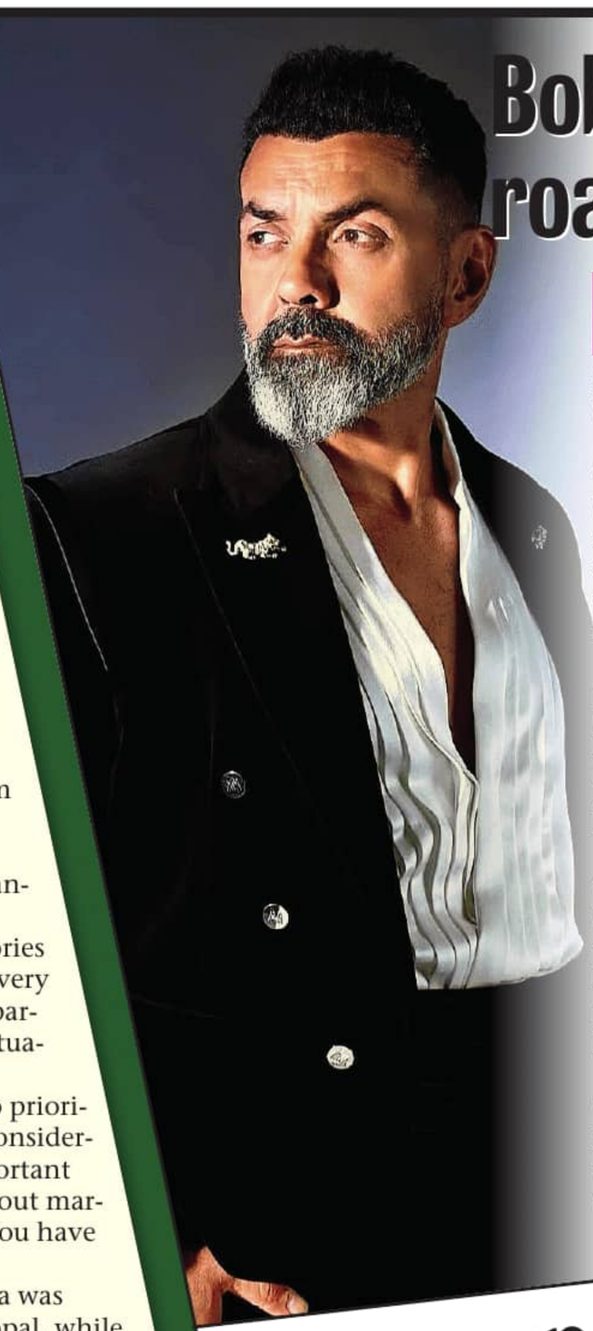
Sharing a strongly worded Instagram Story, Kangana said many married women seek help from their families before tragedies occur but are often abandoned after marriage.

She wrote, "So many tragic news stories about married young women emerge every day. Many educated women beg their parents to help them escape suffocating situations before tragedy strikes."

Kangana also encouraged women to prioritise careers and independence before considering marriage. "Your career is more important than anyone else in your life. Think about marriage only after you are independent. You have to be your own hero," she wrote.

According to reports, Twisha Sharma was found dead at her marital home in Bhopal, while Deepika Nagar allegedly died after falling from a balcony in Noida. Police are investigating both cases. —ETimes

Bobby's silent roar in Animal



Bobby Deol has revealed how director Sandeep Reddy Vanga cast him in Animal after spotting a photograph from the Celebrity Cricket League.

Speaking on Shekhar Suman's talk show, Bobby said Vanga contacted him after seeing his expression in the picture. The actor admitted he initially wondered whether the filmmaker had genuinely messaged him.

Bobby also recalled his father Dharmendra's reaction to the film. "Dad asked me, 'Are you the villain?' I said yes, and he later joked that I had become 'Lord Bobby'," he shared.

The actor revealed he was initially hesitant to play a mute character because he considered his voice one of his strengths. He later learned sign language for the role and waited nearly one-and-a-half years before shooting began.

During the delay, Bobby admitted he feared he might be replaced, though Vanga continued reassuring him throughout the process. — ETimes

Madhavan calls cut-paste con out

R Madhavan has accused a healthcare brand of using his interview clip without permission to promote its services. The actor revealed on Instagram that he had issued a legal notice over the alleged misuse of his content.

Sharing screenshots of the reel, Madhavan wrote, "What a shame. How do these people and organisations think they can get away with this? You cannot take a clip from somebody's interview and make it part of an endorsement."

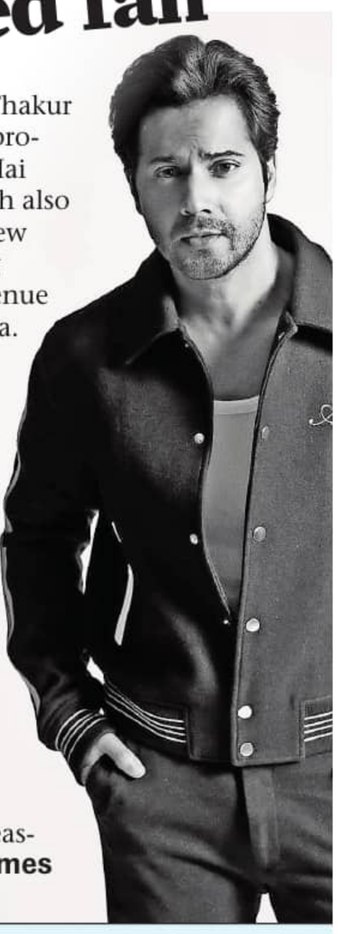
> **Actor slams healthcare brand for allegedly misusing interview clip as endorsement**

Calling it a "fraud alert", the actor claimed the reel falsely suggested he was endorsing the healthcare company. The video reportedly featured a clip from an earlier interview in which Madhavan spoke about his weight loss transformation, followed by a man claiming to be a doctor discussing the actor's appearance.

The account has also allegedly used clips featuring Karan Johar and Ram Kapoor while referring to their transformations.

The healthcare company has not publicly responded to Madhavan's allegations or the legal notice so far. —ETimes

Varun apologises to disappointed fan



Varun Dhawan and Mrunal Thakur visited Phoenix Palassio to promote their upcoming film Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai, which also stars Pooja Hegde. The event drew huge crowds, with fans arriving hours early. Videos from the venue later went viral on social media.

However, one fan expressed disappointment online after waiting nearly five hours to meet Varun and get his autograph, only for the actor to stay briefly at the venue. She wrote, "We waited for five hours and he came for just five minutes."

Varun later apologised on social media, saying police asked the team to leave early.

Directed by David Dhawan, the film releases on June 5. — ETimes

SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Addiction ready for release

Billed as a children's film based on real incidents, Kannada movie Addiction is set to release next month. The film received a children's film certificate from the Central Board of Film Certification and is backed by Brunda N Jayaram under the SBV Productions banner.

Raghavendra Rajkumar makes a special appearance in the film, which highlights the growing menace of mobile phone addiction among children.

Directed by Ajay Kumar AJ, the film marks his second venture as a director. Brunda said she supported the project because of its socially relevant script and concept. She added that the story was inspired by three real-life incidents and aims to send a message to parents about excessive mobile phone usage among children.

The film was shot over 30 days in Bengaluru. Vidhu, grandson of late actor Sundar Krishna Urs and son of Nagendra Urs, makes his Sandalwood debut with the movie. The cast also includes Siddu Moolimani, Rishika and Harish Rai.

A different love genre

Kannada romantic film Keerthi I Love You has begun its publicity campaign with the release of the song Muddaada Mookuthi through Siri Music. The film marks the Sandalwood debut of Prajyoth S Rao as a lead actor, opposite Nidhi Gowda.

The project has been backed by Prajyoth's sister, Poojita S Rao, who turned producer to help her brother realise his dream of becoming an actor. The film also marks the directorial debut of choreographer Niranjan Aradhya.

Speaking about the movie, Niranjan said that although many films are based

on romance, the narration of Keerthi I Love You is different and conveys a message to youngsters rushing into love and dating at an early age.

The film has three songs, with the first track sung by Arfaz Ullal. Most of the shooting has been completed and the team is planning to release the movie on July 31.

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LIFE IS PRECIOUS

Community-based suicide prevention model launched in state 3 years ago records zero self-harm re-attempts among identified beneficiaries

PAGE 2

FLOODY MESS

Each time it rains, shops in Nala Road get flooded as stormwater drain in area was built haphazardly and has not been desilted for a while

PAGE 4

Gambling addiction fuelling crime, recent cases show; desperate to recover losses, repay debts or maintain addictive lifestyles, individuals pushed into crimes such as assault, kidnapping, siphoning funds from workplace and even murder

LAST ROLL OF THE DICE

73,740 gambling cases registered between 2021 and April 2026

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The growing addiction to gambling is increasingly emerging as a major factor behind several crimes ranging from theft and cheating to violent offences such as assault, kidnapping and even murder, according to police officials and psychologists. Psychologists at NIMHANS say the desperation to recover losses, repay debts and maintain an addictive lifestyle is pushing many individuals into criminal activities. Doctors at Shut Clinic have also observed an increase in trading addiction, where they have witnessed one to two cases reported every month.

Gambling rabbit hole

According to Karnataka State Police data, a total of 73,740 gambling cases were registered between 2021 and April 30, 2026. In the first four months of 2026 alone, 5,348 cases were reported. The data also shows a rise in cases from 12,879 in 2024 to 14,737 in 2025.

Police officials said many offenders begin with small-scale gambling activities such as online betting, card games, and illegal gaming apps, hoping to make quick money. However, repeated losses often push them into mounting debt. Many borrow from friends, relatives, private lenders, and loan sharks but struggle to repay the money. As financial pressure grows, some turn to theft, stealing valuables from homes, workplaces, or even family members. Police also spoke about cases involving employees who misuse company funds to continue gambling or clear debts. In extreme situations, gambling-related disputes have reportedly led to assaults, family distress, kidnapping, and even murders.

A series of recent cases in the city highlight the growing link between gambling addiction and serious crimes. In one incident, the Nelamangala police arrested a 35-year-old provision store owner for allegedly murdering his 68-year-old neighbour to repay gambling debts and personal loans. Police said the accused, Shivakumar, targeted the victim, Shobha, knowing

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

> **“Gambling addiction often creates severe emotional and psychological pressure. Individuals facing continuous losses may experience anxiety, depression and panic, leading to impulsive decisions and aggressive behaviour in the second stage**
>
> —Manoj Kumar Sharma, Coordinator of SHUT Clinic

» Answers to these two questions can prove critical

River on the deathbed

State Pollution Board report reveals critical pollution level of Arkavathy near Kanakapura

Garima Prasher
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Arkavathy River near Kanakapura has turned into a dead zone. The stretch has recorded a dissolved oxygen level of 1.6 mg/litre, which is considered a critical pollution level.

This has been highlighted in the water quality report of rivers in Karnataka by the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board (KSPCB).

Water quality experts say a dissolved oxygen level below 2 mg/litre shows that the river system has reached a critical health point, and it is lethal for fish and other aquatic animals.

“Oxygen levels below 2 mg/liter will cease biological activity inside the water body. Higher oxygen levels are crucial for aquatic organisms to survive. At such a low level, only exotic species can sustain themselves. This will lead to an unhealthy ecosystem,” said Dr TV Ramachandra of the Centre for Ecological Sciences at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc).

Under the central government’s National Water Monitoring Programme (NWMP), KSPCB monitors water quality in 12 rivers and at 36-38 locations across Karnataka. These rivers include Arkavathy,

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

THINGS TO DO

01 Threads of creativity

Dastkar Bazaar presents its 25th edition with 160+ craft groups bringing authentic handcrafted merchandise across textiles, pottery, jewellery and wellness products, while also supporting artisans affected by the recent Delhi fire.
Where: Jayamahal Palace Hotel;
When: May 29 to June 4, 10.30 am to 8 pm

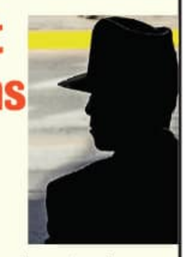
02 Art at heart

Atta Galatta is hosting an Art Journalling Workshop, a guided, beginner-friendly session where participants can draw, collage, layer and create a journal page that's entirely theirs. **Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar;**
When: May 23, 1 pm

03 Catch the match

Loco Lane transforms match day into a premium fan sanctuary, offering all inclusive IPL screenings with gourmet dining and the comfort of premium box seating for an elevated experience. **Where: Loco Lane, Ashok Nagar; When: Until May 31, 5 pm**

04 Plot thickens



Bangalore Literature Festival presents Dead Write, the city's first genre festival devoted entirely to crime writing, featuring two days of sessions with over twenty acclaimed authors, thrilling plot twists and an immersive murder mystery dinner experience. **Where: Bangalore International Centre, Domlur;**
When: May 23, 24, 10.30 am onwards

05 Skill and chill

Career Compass, in association with Laughing Elephants, presents an unforgettable outdoor summer camp amidst the tranquil Sharavathi backwaters near Jog Falls. Designed for children and teenagers aged 10 to 18, the camp offers opportunities to explore nature and build new skills. Those interested can contact for registration: +91 98450 47991; **When: Until May 21, June 11 to 25**

Community model turns tide on risks of self-harm

Collaborative programme involving monitoring of at-risk individuals shows promising results in suicide prevention, with zero recorded self-harm re-attempts among identified beneficiaries

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

With suicide rates steadily rising in India, mental health experts are increasingly calling for stronger community-led prevention models. According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), India recorded 1.71 lakh suicides in 2023, with the suicide rate increasing from 10.2 per one lakh population in 2018 to 12.3 in 2023. India alone contributes nearly a quarter of global suicide deaths, with low- and middle-income countries accounting for over 73 per cent of suicides worldwide. Young people remain especially vulnerable, with suicide emerging as the leading cause of death among those aged 15-29 years.

Against this backdrop, Project SURAKSHA (Surveillance System to Track Suicide and Self-harm), a collaborative initiative by National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences (NIMHANS), the Government of Karnataka and Himalaya Wellness Company, has emerged as a significant community-based suicide prevention model. Launched in 2023 across 32 gram panchayats in Channapatna taluk of Ramanagara district, the project completed its three-year pilot phase in February 2026 with a significant outcome of zero recorded self-harm re-attempts among identified beneficiaries, highlighting the potential of scalable, community-driven interventions in low-resource settings.

Project SURAKSHA began by forming Community-Based Surveillance Teams (CBST) with 795 trained members, including panchayat leaders, healthcare workers, SHG members and teachers, who have conducted 300 stakeholder visits reaching over 6,000 people for early identification and referral of at-risk individuals. The project has also trained 4,185 frontline workers through suicide gatekeeper programmes and reached 14,294 students through awareness sessions in schools and colleges.

Following success of Project SURAKSHA's first phase in 32 gram panchayats of Channapatna, expansion now targets all 128 panchayats across Bengaluru South

Dr Anish V Cherian, Principal Investigator of Project SURAKSHA, Lead–N-SPRITE and Additional Professor at NIMHANS, said that the CBST model shifted suicide prevention from a reactive hospital-centred approach to a proactive community-led approach. Another important mechanism behind the zero re-attempt outcome was the Brief Intervention for Self-Harm and Suicidality (BISS) framework. Dr Cherian explained that unlike the conventional practice of health centres discharging self-harm survivors after emergency management with minimal psychosocial follow-up, BISS involves immediate crisis management and a rigorous 24-month follow-up. "This continuity of care ensured that survivors did not fall through the cracks after leaving the hospital," he said.

Initiative focuses on identification of early warning signs and ensuring regular follow-ups

The first phase of Project SURAKSHA was implemented across 32 gram panchayats in Channapatna taluk, reaching nearly 2.61 lakh people. Following its positive outcomes, the programme has now begun expanding across the larger Bengaluru South district (formerly Ramanagara district). The next phase aims to cover all 128 gram panchayats in the district, benefitting nearly 12 lakh residents.

"As part of broader state-level expansion efforts, there are also plans to implement the programme in Ballari district of Karnataka as an additional model site. The long-term vision is to develop SURAKSHA into a replicable public health framework that can be adapted across diverse Indian settings, especially in rural and semi-rural regions," added Dr Cherian.

KG Umesh, Director–Human Resources, Himalaya Wellness Company, said the outcomes seen through Project SURAKSHA show that suicide prevention becomes more effective when communities become active participants. "What makes this model powerful is that it does not rely only on hospitals or crisis intervention after an incident occurs. Instead, it builds a strong local support network involving ASHA workers, teachers, panchayat members, frontline staff and volunteers, who are trained to identify early warning signs, offer timely support and connect vulnerable individuals with professional help before situations escalate," he said.

Streets of Richards Town finally see light

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Residents of Richards Town and nearby areas have expressed satisfaction with the Bengaluru North City Corporation's (BNCC) prompt action to replace fused bulbs and repair defunct streetlight fittings. The lack of illumination had posed difficulties, particularly for senior citizens navigating poorly lit roads.

BangaloreMirror
Dark streets leave Richards Town residents feeling unsafe

BM published 'Dark streets leave Richards Town residents feeling unsafe' on May 19, 2026, highlighting how residents were struggling with poorly lit roads

Bangalore Mirror published a story 'Dark streets leave Richards Town residents feeling unsafe' on May 19, narrating how residents were struggling with poorly lit roads and were forced to run from pillar to post, seeking timely replacement of fused bulbs and restoration of streetlight fittings. "I am very happy with the prompt response from the authorities concerned, including the electrical contractor. Most of the fused bulbs are replaced. I hope the contractor will fix the remaining issues," said Zaffar Sair, long-time resident of Richards Town.

Most of the faulty streetlights have reportedly been replaced with new ones

Anna Alex Jacob, Vice President of Richards Town Residents Association, noted that most of the defunct streetlights have been replaced with new ones. "I am happy to see fused bulbs being replaced at Richards Park and on other roads. I hope the electrical contractor will replace all fused bulbs and ensure proper illumination of roads in the locality," said Jacob.

BANGALORE MIRROR IMPACT

Expressing gratitude for the swift resolution of streetlight issues, KK Uppal, former president of the Richards Town Residents Association, noted that proper illumination will greatly benefit pedestrians, particularly senior citizens. "I am happy to see streetlights functioning. It was very difficult for me to walk on the footpath after the sunset. With most streetlights functioning, it will not be a problem for me to walk on the footpath or to cross to the other side of the road," said Uppal. The BNCC Assistant Executive Engineer assured that all the fused bulbs will be replaced soon. "We are always ready to cooperate and help the residents of Richards Town," he said.

PF details to be available on WhatsApp soon, says EPFO

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) will roll out a new WhatsApp-based service for subscribers within a month. Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya said users can access PF balance, statements, claim status and details of the last five transactions by simply sending a "Hello" to EPFO's verified green-tick WhatsApp number. The service will be available around the clock in regional languages and will also guide users on Aadhaar verification and facial recognition requirements through WhatsApp itself.

The EPFO is also preparing to allow direct PF withdrawals to bank accounts through UPI, after successful pilot testing. The auto-settlement limit has been raised to Rs 5 lakh, enabling quicker payouts within three days. Meanwhile, EPFO said the "Nidhi Aapke Nikat" grievance campaign has helped cut legal disputes older than 10 years by 45.4 per cent, the lowest pending litigation level in its history. The organisation also dismissed viral social media claims that the minimum EPS-95 monthly pension will be increased from Rs 1,500 to Rs 7,500, calling the reports false. — **BMB**

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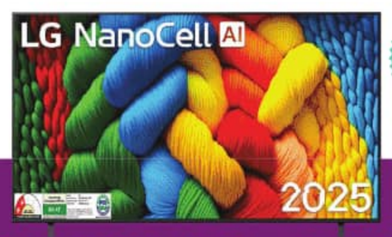

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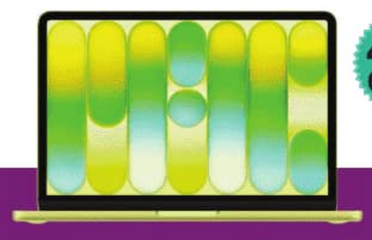

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Clogged drain causes pain after every spell of rain

Faulty drain work and underground pipes laying process 5 years ago leaves Nala Road in muddle; shop owners got walls built to prevent flooding

Y Maheswara Reddy
c-y.reddy@timesofindia.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

(1) The condition of the storm water drain on Nala Road, Sivan Chetty Garden; (2) A wall constructed to prevent drain water entering into the tailor shop; (3) A resident showing the spot where two people had a miraculous escape from being washed away on April 29

Residents and businessmen on Nala Road have been facing problems due to the negligence and unscientific improvement of the storm water drain that was developed and strengthened a few years ago. Many shop and property owners have spent money constructing flood walls to prevent drain water from entering their shops and houses whenever it rains heavily.

They said they have been complaining to the authorities for more than five years. They added that they faced no such problems until BBMP took up development of the drain and BWSSB laid underground drainage pipes in it.

"We have been facing a lot of problems whenever it rains heavily. My shop gets flooded, causing inconvenience. I have to spend a lot of time cleaning the shop after the rainwater recedes. Authorities must fix this issue," said Omar Mohammed Akbar of Garden Mutton Stall.

Expressing concern over the delay in removing silt from the drain to prevent flooding on Nala Road, Maria Hussain of Aam Aadmi Party said the problem has remained unresolved for more than five years. "Residents and shop owners are finding it tough to come out whenever it rains heavily. The need for the hour is to remove silt from the drain," she said.

Demanding that authorities work harder to avoid inconvenience for residents along Nala Road, Bhaskar Naidu said officials have failed to ensure quality in developmental works. "The entire stretch of Nala Road gets flooded whenever it rains. A medium rainfall is sufficient to convert the road into a mini pool," he said.

Recalling how two people narrowly escaped being washed away on April 29 when rain and hailstorm pounded the city, Varadaraj A, a businessman on Nala Road, Sivan Chetty Garden, said authorities have not removed silt from the drain in the last four years. "Two people were all set to get washed away in the drain that was overflowing with water. A group of people rescued both. I have been appealing to authorities to remove silt and garbage from the drain to ensure smooth flow of water without hassles," Varadaraj said.

However, Bengaluru Central City Corporation Executive Engineer for Shivajinagar and Shantinagar said the desilting of storm water drains has already commenced. "Desilting the drain along Halasuru Lake is in progress, and the drain along Nala Road will also be cleaned soon," the executive engineer said.

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Impact: Waste cleared

Kempegowda Main Road

Garbage dumped along footpaths on Kempegowda Main Road has been cleared after the issue was highlighted in these columns.

Unsafe stretch

Indiranagar

A broken and unsafe footpath outside a restaurant on 80 Feet Road in Indiranagar has remained a hazard for pedestrians and customers for over a month.

QR alerts bring faster action on hazardous trees

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Reporting dead or dangerous trees or branches within premises has now become QR-code smart. The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has introduced a QR code that allows citizens to file applications seeking permission for the removal of trees and branches that pose a risk to human life and property. The QR code directs users to Form-1 under Rule 4(1) of the Karnataka Preservation of Trees Rules, 1977. The form must be filled out and submitted to the Forest Wing of GBA for necessary permission and action.

According to GBA, all government and non-government institutions, organisations, factories, industries, establishments, owners and occupants within GBA limits are required to submit these applications to the tree officer under Section 8 of the Karnataka Preservation of Trees Act, 1976. The step follows a recent notice issued by the Lokayukta to GBA. "Lokayukta has issued the notice following the wall collapse incident at Bowring Hospital after the recent rainstorm last month. We have come up with the QR code option for the public under the provisions of the Karnataka Preservation of Trees Act, 1976," said Sudarshan GK, Deputy Conservator of Forests (DCF), Greater Bengaluru Authority.

A section of the compound wall at Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital (Sri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Medical College and Research Institute) in Shivaji Nagar collapsed on April 29, 2026, after heavy rains and strong winds battered the city. The wall section and a nearby tree crashed onto vendors and pedestrians taking shelter. City-based environmentalists and experts, however, said that while the initiative may help manage diseased trees and dangerous branches to prevent accidents, it could also encourage citizens to report healthy trees they want removed. "Any tree will be cut or pruned only after conducting a site inspection and evaluating if a tree needs to be felled or pruned," Sudarshan added. Experts also opined that GBA should have introduced the system after completing the ongoing tree census.

The Forest Wing of Greater Bengaluru Authority has previously said it receives a large number of applications for tree felling and pruning. On average, the department receives around 15-20 such applications.

Untreated sewage is killing river

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Lakshmantirtha, Tungabhadra, Bhadra, Cauvery, Kabini, Kagina, Krishna, Shimsha, Bhima, Netravati, and Tunga.

The water quality analysis report also shows that with this drastic drop in oxygen level, the biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) in the river has also soared. The river stretch has recorded a BOD value of 21 mg/ml.

Experts say high BOD and low dissolved oxygen levels indicate that the water body is receiving untreated sewage and industrial effluents. While the number of industries along these river stretches has increased, the city continues to discharge untreated sewage.

"Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) has failed to treat sewage generated by the city. It is the primary duty of the Karnataka State Pollution Control Board to arrest the flow of sewage and effluent into the river. It is a dereliction of duty on the part of the state pollution control board," added Dr Ramachandra.

According to a city-based water quality expert, the solution lies in the implementation of the Water Act. The industries discharging untreated effluent into water bodies should be penalized under the Polluter Pays Principle.

"KSPCB, being the regulatory authority, must strictly implement the zero discharge policy under the Water Act. Citizens are important stakeholders in environmental issues, and they must exercise their duty and demand their rights by flagging these issues to authorities concerned," said the expert.

CRIME FILES

Eight arrested in massive drug seizure

Eight persons, including three foreign nationals, were arrested by the Hebbal police in a major narcotics crackdown that led to the seizure of 17.5 kg of banned narcotic substance MDMA worth ₹17.5 crore, with an estimated market value of ₹35 crore. Two cars and four mobile phones used in the crime were also seized.

The accused were identified as Reena Yadav (50) from West Delhi, Debashish Banerjee (66) from New Delhi, Mohammed Mansoor P (30) from Bengaluru, Danfa Gerald, a Senegalese national, Magreth Liginiko Chale, a Tanzanian national, Dheeraj (30) from Delhi, Obianuju Rita Okeke (34) from Delhi, and Abdul Sammed (38) from Dakshina Kannada district. Police said six of them, including the three foreign nationals, were apprehended in Delhi and Haryana, while the remaining two were arrested in Karnataka.

The operation began on May 11 after police received credible information that three persons were selling MDMA from a car near an apartment in Unnathi Layout, Anandnagar. A raid led to the arrest of three accused and seizure of 4.18 kg of MDMA. Subsequent investigation recovered 10.12 kg from a house in Chikkanayakanahalli and 3.2 kg from another accused near Hennur. Police said some members of the network remain absconding and efforts are underway to trace them. **–BMB**

Teen robbers land in police net

Three juveniles in conflict with the law were taken into custody by Bengaluru City Police for allegedly assaulting a youth, robbing him of cash and a two-wheeler, and abandoning the stolen vehicle near Jayanna Circle under Rajarajeshwarinagar Police Station limits.

According to police, the complainant, a resident of Kenchenahalli, lodged a complaint on May 15, 2026, stating that his son had gone near Ideal Homes to get photocopies at late night when four unidentified persons on a two-wheeler intercepted him. The accused allegedly assaulted him, robbed him of ₹200 and his two-wheeler, and fled. Police said the accused took the victim's mobile phone, noted down his Instagram ID, later returned the phone, and sent him a message stating the stolen vehicle had been abandoned near Jayanna Circle.

Acting on credible information, police apprehended three suspects near Village City Kalyana Mantapa on May 20 along with a two-wheeler. During interrogation, the trio confessed to the crime and revealed another associate is absconding. Police seised a two-wheeler, a mobile phone, and ₹100 cash. Further inquiry revealed the seised vehicle was linked to a theft case registered at Kaggalipura Police Station. The juveniles will be produced before the Juvenile Justice Board after counselling. **–BMB**

Delivery executive held in cow assault case

The Cottonpet police arrested a 24-year-old delivery executive for allegedly sexually assaulting a cow sitting on a roadside in Akkipete, following outrage over a viral CCTV video of the incident.

Police identified the accused as Shabaz Alam, who had been residing in Cottonpet for the past month and working as a delivery executive. According to police, the incident took place around 1.47 am on May 5 within the limits of Cottonpet police station.

The matter came to light on May 17 after a social media account, "GarudEyeIntel/Defence Intel," posted the CCTV footage on X and sought immediate police action. Based on the video, a police sub-inspector attached to the surveillance and monitoring unit of Cottonpet police station registered a suo motu case.

During the investigation, police verified the footage and identified the location as Akkipete Galli Road. The CCTV visuals allegedly showed the accused arriving on a two-wheeler, waiting until the area became deserted, and then committing an unnatural sexual act with the cow lying on the roadside.

Police traced the accused using CCTV footage and technical evidence. Officials said he had no previous criminal record but termed his actions perverted. The accused is a native of Bihar and had come to Bengaluru around a year ago in search of work. **–BMB**

CCTV captures ₹3-crore gold heist

An FIR has been registered against three men for allegedly cheating a gold jewellery firm and fleeing with ornaments worth nearly ₹3 crore after posing as wholesale buyers in Malleswaram, police said on Wednesday. The incident took place on May 16 and was captured on CCTV cameras installed at the office premises.

According to the complaint filed by the sales manager of Mehta Gold Pvt Ltd, he and another employee were instructed by a senior colleague to carry around 3 kg of gold jewellery samples to the office of a man identified as Paresh Soni, who introduced himself as a wholesale gold trader interested in purchasing jewellery.

Police said Soni introduced two others, identified as Shyam and Chandrashekhar Rao, at the office. While Soni selected the ornaments, Shyam allegedly examined the jewellery using a machine and recorded the weight of the items. The complainant alleged that Soni later handed over nearly 1.850 kg of jewellery to Rao in another cabin to prepare a list and photograph the designs. However, Rao allegedly escaped with the ornaments, while Shyam also fled claiming he would bring him back. Based on the complaint, Malleswaram police registered a case and launched a search for the accused. **–BMB**

Student dies after alleged academic harassment

A 23-year-old student enrolled at a private coaching academy in Bengaluru allegedly died by suicide after being subjected to mental harassment and public humiliation over his academic performance, police said on Wednesday.

The deceased was identified as Chunnu Kumar, a native of Bereva village in Bihar's East Champaran district. Kumar had joined the Manipal Academy of BFSI in March this year to pursue a banking coaching programme.

According to police, Kumar was found hanging from a window inside the academy hostel around 5.30 pm on May 18. His roommate reportedly found the body and alerted the hostel authorities.

Based on a complaint filed by Kumar's father, Kothanur police registered a case against members of the academy staff. In the complaint, the father alleged that the academy management, Head of Department and Programme Head repeatedly harassed his son after he failed in certain subjects.

He alleged that Kumar was humiliated in front of classmates, verbally abused and burdened with excessive project work. Police said Kumar had shared his distress with friends and his roommate and had expressed depression over the alleged humiliation and academic pressure. **–BMB**

PAGE 7 Mother's plea for daughter's mental health assessment denied

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

When gambling takes more sinister turn

she lived with her bedridden husband and wore a gold chain. He allegedly stabbed her inside her house and escaped with the chain before being traced through CCTV footage within six hours.

In another case, a 34-year-old assistant manager of a nationalised bank was arrested for allegedly stealing 2.7 kg of pledged gold worth 4.12 crore to fund online betting and gambling. Police said the accused gradually siphoned off gold from lockers at the bank's Girinagar branch.

The KR Puram police also arrested two men accused of blackmailing a woman after befriending her on Snapchat. The accused allegedly used private videos to extort gold and cash worth over ₹85 lakh. Investigators said one of the accused had lost nearly ₹1.25 crore in online betting.

In yet another such case, Electronic City police arrested three men for kidnapping a spa owner near Bettadasanapura and demanding ₹2 lakh for his release. Police rescued the victim from a deserted area on S Bingipura Road within two days. Investigations revealed that the prime accused had allegedly misappropriated apartment funds and lost the money in online gaming, prompting the kidnapping conspiracy.

Mental health crisis

Compulsive gambling is often fueled by an illusion of control and a constant urge to recover losses. As the addiction intensifies, individuals may experience severe mood swings, financial distress, and emotional isolation. "Many hide their gambling habits from family members until the financial burden or their delusion collapses," says Manoj Kumar Sharma, Coordinator of SHUT Clinic, Professor of Clinical Psychology, NIMHANS.

Sharma explained that a common pattern in gambling addiction is chasing losses, the urge to recover lost money or earn quick profits, which traps individuals in a harmful cycle. "Repeated wins can create a false sense of confidence, leading gamblers to believe they are in control and reject professional help. However, mounting losses often result in financial ruin, emotional isolation, and strained family relationships. Many gamblers hide their struggles and mood changes from loved ones until the addiction and debt spiral out of control."

Have you ever lied to people important to you about how much you gambled?

Experts advise families to watch for early warning signs such as secretive financial behaviour, mood swings, lying, irritability, and aggression, while offering support that is compassionate yet firm. Therapy usually focuses on helping individuals recognise their triggers, develop healthier coping mechanisms, and process difficult emotions in a constructive way.

Sharma explains that people who feel they are losing control over gambling should ask themselves two key questions: "Have you ever felt the need to bet increasing amounts of money?" and "Have you ever lied to people important to you about how much you gambled?" If a person answers "yes" to one or both questions, it may indicate the need for professional consultation and support.

"Gambling addiction often creates severe emotional and psychological pressure. Individuals facing continuous losses may experience anxiety, depression and panic, leading to impulsive decisions and aggressive behaviour in the second stage," he added.

Have you ever felt the need to bet increasing amounts of money?

Sharma advises individuals struggling with gambling addiction to speak openly with someone they trust, such as a family member, friend, mental health professional, or addiction expert, without fear of judgment. He also recommends reducing financial risk factors by limiting the use of credit cards, avoiding easy loans, and setting strict spending limits. He cautioned against using gambling as a way to socialise, escape emotional stress, or recover losses. "Individuals should develop alternative hobbies or recreational activities to fill their time. If these measures do not help, seeking professional support and treatment is strongly recommended," he said.

If you or somebody you know needs help, reach out to:
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CHANGE OF NAME

I, ANKIT MEGOTIA, S/o Amit Kumar Megotia, aged about 24 years, residing at No.277, 2nd Cross, 2nd Main Road, RHCS Layout, Annapoorneshwari Nagar, Bengaluru – 560091, have changed my name to ANKIIT MEGOTIA.

I, SHAIK HYDER VALI (Old Name) resident of No.6/6, 9th Main Road, 17th Cross, Padarayanapura, Bengaluru-560026, have changed my name to SHAIK HYDER ALI (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 30/4/2026 Before Notary Deepa.M Bangalore.

I, FATHEH MOHAMMED (Old Name) resident of No.51, 7th Main Road, Padarayanapura, Bangalore-560026 have changed my name to FATHA MOHAMMED (New Name) vide affidavit dated: 20/5/2026 Before Notary Deepa.M Bangalore.

I, Latha Velusamy R/o No. 7/2, Amco Layout Road, Narayanappa Badavane, Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, 1st Phase, Kodigehalli, Bengaluru - 560092, have changed my name to Ananya Chandramurthy for all purposes.

I Arunkumar S/o Sharanappa Bennalli R/o Tadkal Yelburga Koppal 583238 changed name to Arunkumar Bennalli vide affidavit dated 16-05-2026 Notary Devika Kumari Bengaluru

A PALANI S/o C Annaswamy No. 12, 32/5 80ft Road, 4th N Block Dr Rajakumar Road, Rajajinagar 10th Block. have changed My Name ANNA PALANI. Wide affidavit no 373/69/xiv/19/05/2026 Sworn before Notary L.VEENA RHCS Layout, Bangalore-560 091

I, Anandhamma Hanumaiah R/o No 592 Venkteshpura Arkavathi layout 3rd block Jakkur Bengaluru 560064 Have changed my name to Anandamma Hanumaiah for all Purposes.

I, MOHAMMAD ZEESHAN KHAN, Residing at No 50, 2nd Floor, 2nd Main, B G Road, Subbanna Garden, Adugodi Post, Bangalore-560030, Have changed my name to MOHAMMED ZEESHAN KHAN vide affidavit dated 20.5.2026 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

I, K N PRITHVI, Residing at No. 23312, Prestige Falcon City, Konanakunte Circle, Doddakallasandra, Bangalore-560062, Have changed my name to PRITHVI ANMOL KANGONDI vide affidavit dated 13/05/2026 sworn before Notary Aravind Patil G.G Bangalore

WE, MOHAMMAD RAFAKATH AND SHAHANA PARVEEN, RESIDING AT C-310, SKANDA ELINA APT, BALAGERE ROAD, VARTHUR, BENGALURU, KARNATAKA-560087. DECLARE THAT THE FATHER'S NAME RECORDED AS "MD RAFAKAT" IN OUR DAUGHTER'S BIRTH CERTIFICATE IS INCORRECT AND THE CORRECT NAME IS "MOHAMMAD RAFAKATH" AS PER AADHAAR CARD AND OTHER OFFICIAL RECORDS. BOTH NAMES REFER TO THE SAME PERSON.

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Mother's plea for daughter's mental health assessment denied

HC rejects petition while stressing that personal autonomy cannot be curtailed merely because of family members' opposition of adult woman's interfaith relationship choice

HIGH COURT

Mother claims adult daughter lacks capacity to make decisions, while daughter alleges familial pressure to end relationship

The Karnataka High Court has dismissed a petition filed by a mother seeking a mental health evaluation of her adult daughter, who is in an interfaith relationship. The woman, who appeared before the court, alleged that her parents were attempting to force her to end the relationship under pressure from members of the RSS.

According to the case details, the mother had approached the court claiming that her daughter was mentally unstable and required psychiatric assessment. She also sought custody of the woman, arguing that her daughter was not capable of making independent decisions regarding her personal life and relationship.

However, during the hearing, the woman firmly opposed the plea and informed the court that she was in a consensual relationship of her own free will. She stated that she had been subjected to pressure from her family to sever ties with her partner because he belonged to another religion. The woman further alleged that individuals associated with the RSS had also influenced her parents in opposing the relationship.

After interacting with the woman in person, the bench observed that she appeared capable of understanding her circumstances and making independent choices. The court found no material to justify ordering a psychiatric examination and stressed that an adult woman has the constitutional right to decide whom she wishes to associate or live with.

The High Court consequently rejected the mother's plea, reiterating that personal autonomy and individual liberty cannot be curtailed merely because family members disagree with an adult's relationship choices.

Court upholds strict bail considerations

The Karnataka High Court has refused to grant a second spell of interim bail to an accused booked by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), observing that repeated requests for temporary release to attend family rituals cannot be entertained in the absence of compelling reasons.

A division bench comprising Justices Rajesh Rai K and Sachin Shankar Magadum dismissed the appeal filed by the accused, who had sought three days of interim bail to participate in the Chehlam ceremony — the 40th day prayer ritual held after the death of his sister.

The court noted that the accused had already been granted interim bail earlier by the trial court to attend funeral-related ceremonies conducted between the 10th and 13th days after his sister's death. It observed that allowing repeated interim bail pleas for successive rituals, without strong and exceptional grounds, would not be justified.

While considering the plea, the bench emphasised that interim bail in serious offences investigated under the UAPA and NIA framework must be granted cautiously. The judges said temporary release cannot become a recurring exercise merely because additional religious or family functions are scheduled after an earlier release has already been permitted.

The accused had argued that his presence at the Chehlam ceremony was necessary as part of family and religious obligations. However, the court found that no exceptional circumstance had been demonstrated to warrant another round of interim bail immediately after the earlier relief.

Accordingly, the High Court rejected the appeal and upheld the earlier decision refusing the second interim bail request.

—BMB

INBRIEF

AI surveillance to tighten prison security

Authorities at Parappana Agrahara Central Prison have introduced a new 'Prisoners Tracking Movement System' to monitor inmate movement and crack down on misconduct and illegal activities inside the jail. Biometric access systems have been installed at the entrance of every barrack, while AI-powered surveillance cameras are being used to closely track prisoners and prison staff. The new monitoring mechanism has already been implemented for both convicts and undertrial prisoners. As part of the Rs 2.25 crore modernisation project, the prison administration has also launched a digital token system for visitor meetings. Biometric verification has been made mandatory at key locations including barracks, the prison hospital, visitor rooms and kitchen, among other places. Officials said inmates allegedly entered unauthorised wards and barracks after visitor meetings instead of returning to designated cells. BMB

40,000 govt schools to be shut down soon?

The AIDSO Karnataka State Committee and the Save Public Education State Committee have alleged that the state's 'KPS Magnet School' initiative could lead to the closure of over 40,000 government schools across Karnataka, calling it a draconian policy and demanding its immediate withdrawal. At a press conference, AIDSO leaders said protests and 'Save Our Neighbourhood School' meetings have been held over the past six months across several village clusters in Ramanagara taluk, Bengaluru South district.

They claimed multiple magnet schools have already opened in the region, with preparations underway to shut down nearby government schools. AIDSO Vice President Apoorva CM alleged that parents are being pressured to enrol children in magnet schools and that meetings involving district authorities and representatives have been conducted. BMB

KKR bowlers restrict MI to 147 in must-win clash

IPL 2026

Kolkata Knight Riders' Sunil Narine, right, celebrates with captain Ajinkya Rahane the wicket of Mumbai Indians' captain Hardik Pandya

Kolkata Knight Riders bowling unit exploited the sluggish conditions to perfection as it choked Mumbai Indians to a modest 147 for eight, in their must-win IPL clash, here on Wednesday.

Opting to bowl under overcast skies on a tacky Eden Gardens pitch that had remained under covers, KKR reduced MI to 41/4 inside the powerplay with Cameron Green (2/23 in three overs) and left-arm pacer Saurabh Dubey (2/34) sharing two wickets apiece up front.

Green was exceptional on the field and with the ball, striking twice in the space of three deliveries to remove Ryan Rickelton (6) and Naman Dhir (0).

He then pulled off a stunning running catch from mid-wicket to dismiss Rohit Sharma (15) off Dubey just when the Indian stalwart was looking to break free.

MI went on to lose three wickets for six runs in the space of eight balls.

After a one-hour rain interruption, KKR's spin duo of Sunil Narine and injured Varun Chakravarthy tightened the screws further, conceding just 14 runs in their first four overs bowling in tandem.

Today's battle
Gujarat Titans
VS
Chennai Super Kings
7.30 PM Ahmedabad

Narine, in particular, was menacing with his turn and variable bounce, repeatedly troubling Tilak Varma, before taking the prized scalp of MI skipper Hardik Pandya (26; 27b) beating him with a delivery that drifted in and stayed low to crash into the stumps.

Narine had splendid figures of 1/13 that had 16 dot balls.

Chakravarthy was unlucky not to dismiss Tilak on 12 after spilling a return catch following a collision with wicket-keeper Angkrish Raghuvanshi.

Raghuvanshi hurt his hand in the process and had to walk off the field, with Tejasvi Dahiya coming on as substitute.

Tilak, however, failed to capitalise on the reprieve, crawling to a 32-ball 20 before holing out to Anukul Roy at square leg off Kartik Tyagi on the short 60-metre boundary.

From 106/7 in 17 overs, MI however did well to finish well with Corbin Bosch scoring 32 not out from 18 balls with two sixes and three fours as they scored 41 runs in last three overs.

Green earlier triggered the collapse with the new ball.

Rickelton top-edged a short ball to Manish Pandey at point, while Dhir fell for a three-ball duck after Green repeatedly beat him outside off before inducing an edge. — PTI

mybangaloremirror@timesofindia.com
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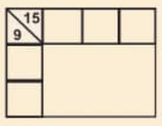
@BangaloreMirror

SOLVE IT IN A MINUTE

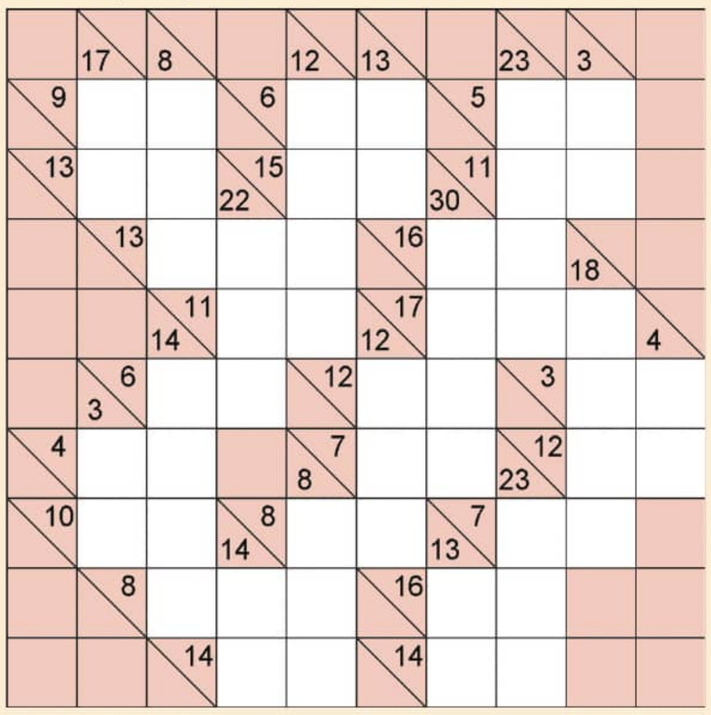
((100! / 98!) – 9900 = ?

Kakuro

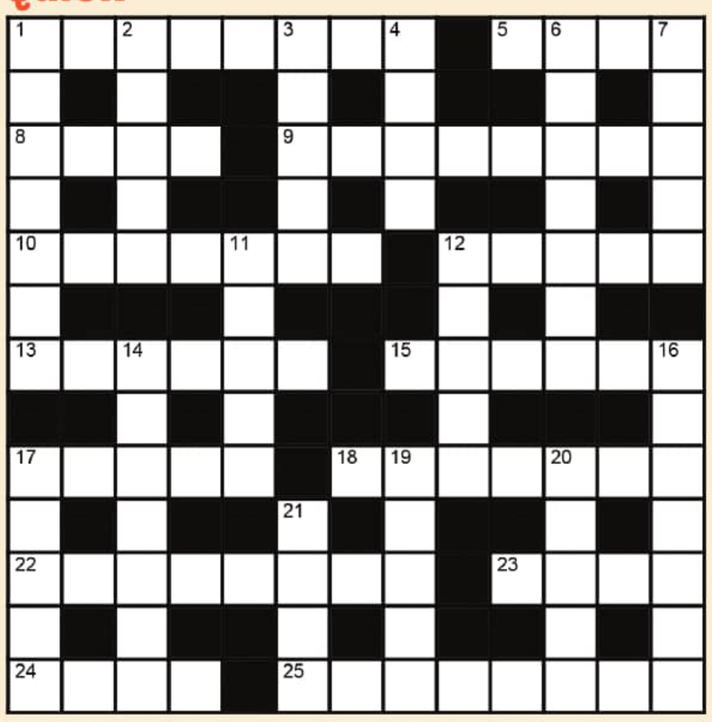
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 An insurgent (8)
5 Mock (4)
8 Almonds, cashews, etc (4)
9 Hunts, looks for or seeks (8)
10 Thesaurus entry (7)
12 Pores over (5)
13 Archer's missiles? (6)
15 Egg-shaped bodies (6)
17 Scour (5)
18 Scornful or ironic language (7)
22 Unskilled worker (8)
23 Very dry (4)
24 Official obligation (4)
25 Extinct elephants (8)

DOWN

1 God of good luck riding a mouse (7)
2 Consumed (5)
3 Hearty, potent or powerful (5)
4 Cry of grief (4)
6 Cinema in the Banashankari area (7)
7 Imperils (5)
11 Governor in Mogul India (5)
12 Wanderer (5)
14 Cheese on toast (7)
16 Keeps bubbling or boiling gently (7)
17 Light meal (5)
19 Former Pakistani all-rounder Wasim ___ (5)
20 Representative (5)
21 First name in horror (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: U EQUALS G

IJWX NL AVX UGXBA ZNGBSIX SKGX. IJWNEU JKGLXIWXL OJGML ZNGBSIXL NE JKG INWXL.

Linemaro

Put a drop of tear in the ocean for you... and I'll stop loving you when you find that teardrop

Mindchow

Sometimes life is going to hit you in the head with a brick. Don't lose faith

Joke of the day

I just read a book about Helium. It was so good that I couldn't put it down

Loop

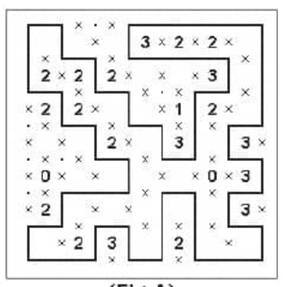
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

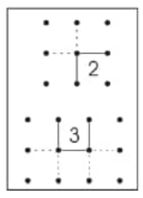
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

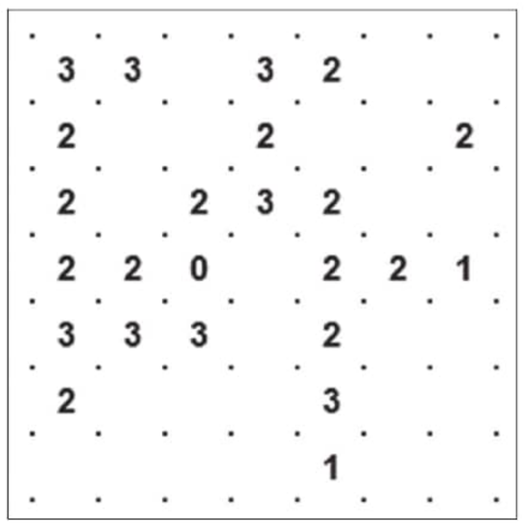
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



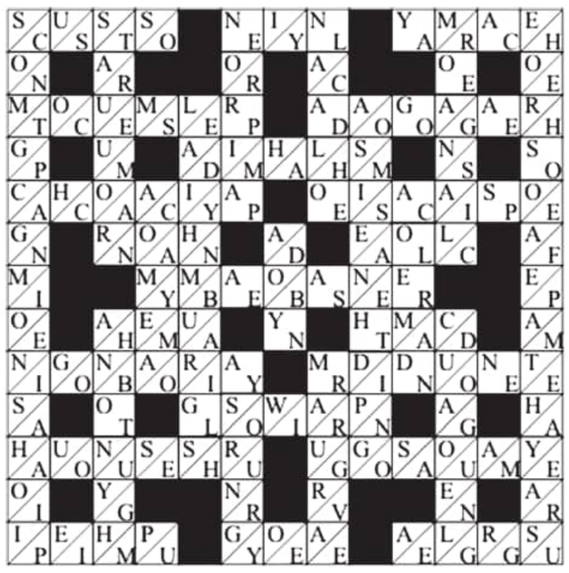
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

1	2	3	4	5
6				
7				
8	V			
9				

ACROSS

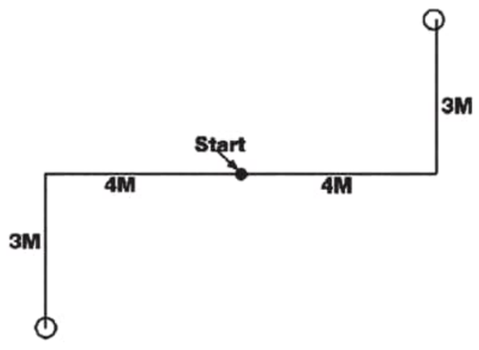
1 Rasps; 6 Acted; 7 I rob I; 8 Value; 9 Rogue

DOWN

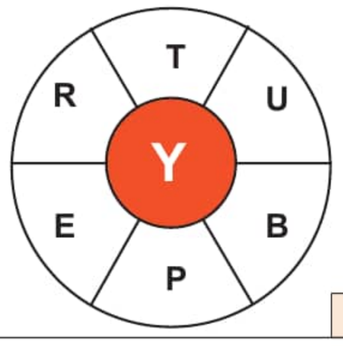
1 Orcus; 2 Vapor; 3 A due I; 4 Barge; 5 Islet

Mensapuzzle

If two men stand back to back, walk in opposite directions for 4 metres, turn to the left and walk another 3 metres, what is the distance between them when they stop?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

07 Average; **08** Good; **10** Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

		5	1		6	9		
2								3
		1	8		4	7		
	1			6			4	
	7		9		8		6	
	6			7			8	
		4	3		5	6		
8								5
		9	2		7	4		

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 16
1 4 6 7

Medium = 11
3 5 5 8

Hard = 10
3 4 5 8

Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

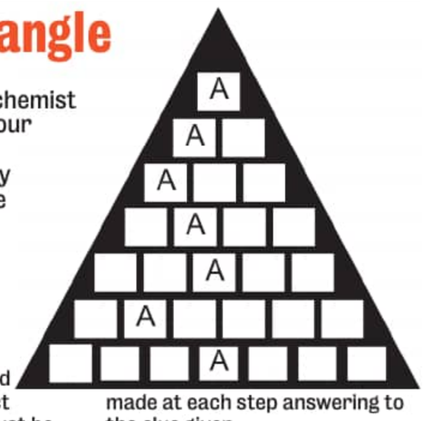
Differences: 1. Chair leg is moved. 2. Pen holder is different. 3. Chair back is shorter. 4. Blinds are different. 5. Ear is smaller. 6. Bottle on cabinet is moved.

Riddler

If a cork is put into a glass of water, the cork will almost always drift to the side of the glass. There is one simple way, however, to get the cork to float in the center of the glass (the horizontal center, not the vertical). What is it? Water, the glass, and the cork are all that is required.

Alpha triangle

1 Blood gr.
2 Astatine for the chemist
3 Spacebar neighbour
4 Endure
5 Lacking originality
6 Palatial residence
7 Finds

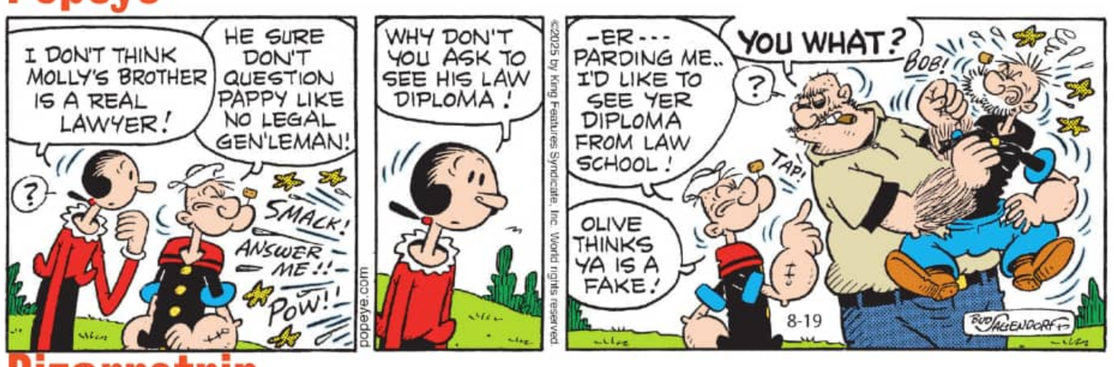


Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye


I DON'T THINK MOLLY'S BROTHER IS A REAL LAWYER!
HE SURE DON'T QUESTION PAPPY LIKE NO LEGAL GEN'LEMAN!
SMACK!
ANSWER ME!!
POW!
WHY DON'T YOU ASK TO SEE HIS LAW DIPLOMA!
-ER--- PARDING ME.. I'D LIKE TO SEE YER DIPLOMA FROM LAW SCHOOL!
YOU WHAT?
BOB!
TAP!
OLIVE THINKS YA IS A FAKE!
8-19
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popeye.com

Bizarrotrip

Wayno & Piraro 2-7-26
It didn't work out. I guess the "Mommy's Favorite" tattoo should have raised a red flag.
BIZARRO.COM
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Dist. by King Features

Diamond Lil

YOU MADE ANOTHER ONE?
YEAH... GUESS THIS ONE'S NAME
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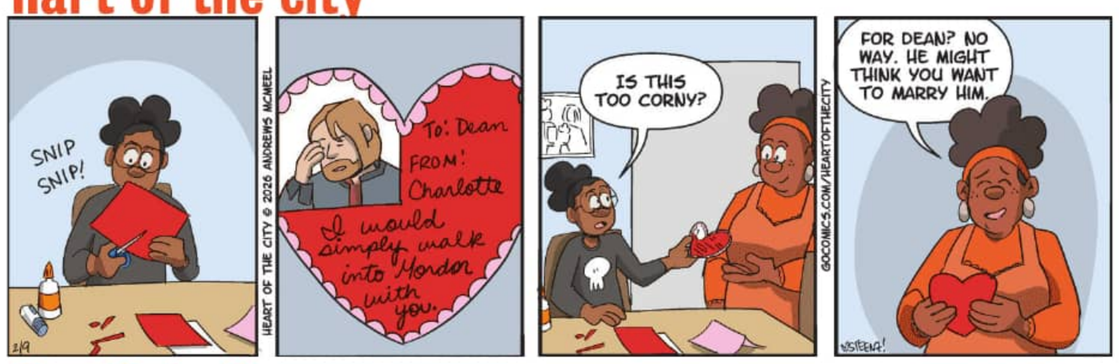
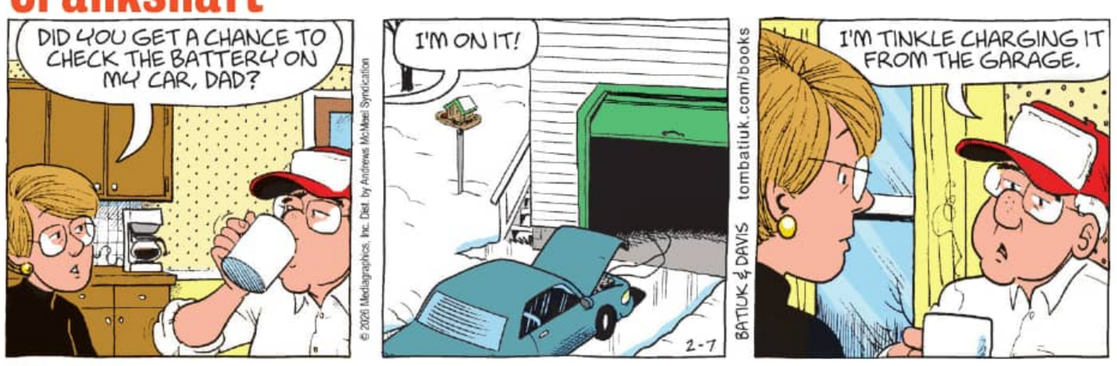
www.creators.com
WINTER STARTING TO GET TO YOU, LIL?
IT'S FROSTY THE SNOW FLAKE!

Hart of the city


SNIP SNIP!
To: Dean FROM: Charlotte I would simply walk into Mordor with you.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2026 ANDREWS MCMEEL
IS THIS TOO CORNY?
FOR DEAN? NO WAY. HE MIGHT THINK YOU WANT TO MARRY HIM.
GOCOMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


DID YOU GET A CHANCE TO CHECK THE BATTERY ON MY CAR, DAD?
I'M ON IT!
I'M TINKLE CHARGING IT FROM THE GARAGE.
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BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books
2-7

Mutts

WRITTEN IN THE STARS

DR SUNDEEP KOCHAR

If it's your birthday today

This year marks a transition from planning to action. The ideas you have nurtured are finally ready for the world. Expect a fast-paced environment where quick thinking is rewarded. Your communication skills are your greatest asset; use them to build bridges and close deals. A new neighbourhood or local scene provides the fresh start you have been craving lately.

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Communication channels open up, making it the perfect time to send that difficult email. Your words carry extra weight today, so choose them with kindness and a spirit of cooperation.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Professional networking yields a promising lead. Be bold in introducing yourself to someone you admire. Your confidence is contagious, making a lasting impression on everyone you meet in person.

Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Clear communication is vital in your primary partnership. Express your needs honestly but gently. Listening is just as important as speaking. Mutual understanding creates a solid foundation for lasting, deep love.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Your senses are heightened, making art and music feel more profound. Visit a gallery or listen to a new album. Inspiration strikes when you allow yourself to be deeply moved.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Spiritual growth is highlighted. Spend time in quiet contemplation or study a philosophy that resonates with you. Internal peace is the foundation upon which all your external success is built.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Attention to detail saves the day at work. You spot a mistake before it causes trouble. Your colleagues rely on your sharp eye and your unwavering commitment to doing things.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Mental agility is your superpower today. You can juggle multiple tasks with ease. Stay focused on your primary goal to ensure that nothing important slips through the cracks of busyness.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
A social gathering provides the perfect backdrop for a meaningful connection. Be your authentic self. You attract people who appreciate your genuine nature and your unique way of seeing life.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Creative self-expression brings a sense of liberation. Break away from traditional methods and try something radical. Your originality is your greatest strength; embrace it fully and without any lingering hesitation.

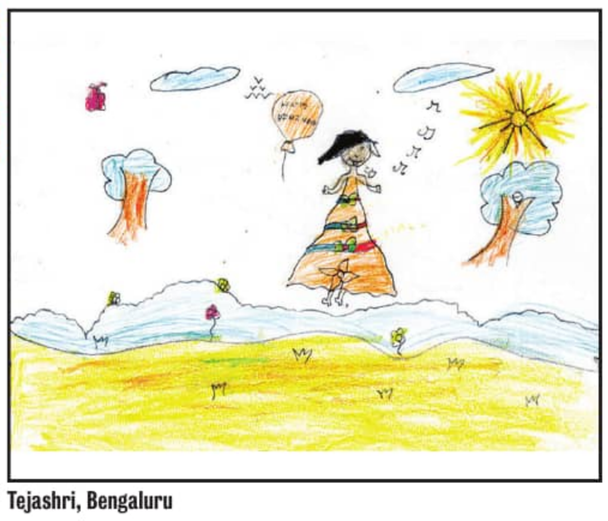
Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
A deep sense of nostalgia colors your day. Reach out to a childhood friend. Sharing stories of the past strengthens your roots and reminds you of how far you've come.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Determination drives you toward a difficult goal. Do not let minor setbacks deter you. Your resilience is legendary; keep pushing forward until you reach the summit of your personal mountain.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Focus on your emotional well-being today. Practice self-compassion and forgive yourself for any recent mistakes. You are doing your best, and that is more than enough. Peace is yours.

www.sundeepkochar.com

KIDZONE



Tejashri, Bengaluru

Nalshaza, Bengaluru

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

RIDDLER The reason that a cork drifts to the side of a glass is that it floats to the highest point. Since water "clings" to the glass, the highest point is around the edge of the water. To get the cork to float in the middle of the glass, all you have to do is fill the glass as much as possible. The water will form a convex shape above the glass, with the highest point at its center. This is where the cork will settle.

FAST FIVE

S	P	A	R	S
C	A	D	E	T
O	R	I	B	I
U	V	E	A	L
R	O	U	G	E

BULL'S EYE
bury, buyer, byre, byte, prey, PUBERTY, pyre, ruby, type, tyre

STRIKE OUT

C	U	T	S		N	I	L		A	R	C	H		
O		R		O		A		E		O				
M	O	U	S	E	R		D	A	G	G	E	R		
P		M		D	I	A	L	S		N		S		
A	C	A	C	I	A		E	S	C	A	P	E		
N		N	O	N		A		E	L	L		F		
I		M	B	A	B	A	N	E				E		
O		A	M	U		Y		T	A	D		A		
N	O	N	A	R	Y		M	I	N	U	E	T		
S		O		G	O	W	A	N		G		H		
H	O	N	S	H	U		U	G	S	O	M	E		
I		Y		N		V		N		S		R		
P	I	M	P		G	E	E		E	G	G	S		

QUICK

G	U	E	R	I	L	L	A		J	E	E	R		
A		A		U		L			S			I		
N	U	T	S		S	E	A	R	C	H	E	S		
E		E		T		S		W				K		
S	Y	N	O	N	Y	M		R	E	A	D	S		
H				A				O		R				
A	R	R	O	W	S		O	V	O	I	D	S		
A				A				E				I		
S	C	R	U	B		S	A	R	C	A	S	M		
A		E			B		K			G		M		
L	A	B	O	U	R	E	R		S	E	R	E		
A		I		A		A				N		R		
D	U	T	Y		M	A	M	O	T	H	S			

SOLVE IN 1M
100! / 98! = 100*99 = 9900;
=> ((100! / 98!) - 9900 = 0

QUOTE UNCODE
Love is the great miracle cure. Loving ourselves works miracles in our lives.

MENSA PUZZLE
10 metres.

SUDOKU

7	8	5	1	3	6	9	2	4
2	4	6	7	5	9	8	1	3
3	9	1	8	2	4	7	5	6
9	1	8	5	6	2	3	4	7
4	7	3	9	1	8	5	6	2
5	6	2	4	7	3	1	8	9
1	2	4	3	9	5	6	7	8
8	3	7	6	4	1	2	9	5
6	5	9	2	8	7	4	3	1

ALPHA TRIANGLE
A, At, Alt, Last, Stale, Castle, Locates.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 + 6 - 1 + 7 = 16
Medium
5 + 8 - 5 + 3 = 11
Hard
8 - 5 + 3 + 4 = 10

LOOP

KAKURO

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- 100% foreclosure waiver.~

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EXTER benefits up to
₹45 000*

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